WASHINGTON, DC- Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced that a grant of \$50,000 has been awarded to the City of Parlier to provide technical assistance for a vocational training program which will expand and train the workforce for small businesses located in Parlier, California. These funds are being awarded through the United States Department of Agriculture under the Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program.

"I am very happy to hear that Parlier is receiving federal funds to jumpstart their small businesses," said Costa. "The more we can help our entrepreneurs the better off our Valley's economy will be."

Funds will be used to provide technical assistance for a small business assistance and façade improvement program to promote economic development for small businesses located in Parlier. The City of Parlier hopes to include upgrading the commercial district by assisting four business owners improve their storefronts, assisting three business owners with their site plan, as well as zoning and planning applications for expansion of their businesses.